

THE MORNING NEWS

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Call for the community to join in the preservation of intangible cultural heritage



organizations to submit applications to be nominated to become part of the program.

UNESCO, in promoting this initiative, imagines an island where the streets, buildings, people and beach are all grey, because they did not preserve and pass on these intangible cultural elements that give life vibrancy and

ORANJESTAD -- There will be an informative meeting conducting this coming Wednesday, March 12 at the main branch of Aruba's National Library in Oranjestad, conducted by Fundacion Herencia Cultural Inmaterial, which is dedicated to the preservation and promulgation of the elements of Aruba's intangible cultural heritage.

The purpose is to inform various groups dedicated to the continuation of keeping the island's distinctive cultural aspects alive through

the generations, passing down the traditions of dance, music, cuisine, and folklore native to Aruba, and the various cultures and ethnicities that inhabit the island.

The program is in keeping with a treaty signed in 2012 by Holland, and so Aruba, with UNESCO, during the Convention of Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage. Aruba's present administration was very keen to become a part of this program, and the Department of Culture also invites as many groups, foundations and or-

ganizations to submit applications to be nominated to become part of the program.

UNESCO, in promoting this initiative, imagines an island where the streets, buildings, people and beach are all grey, because they did not preserve and pass on these intangible cultural elements that give life vibrancy and color. The UNESCO Convention Treaty applies to all the Kingdom of the Netherlands, including the six Dutch Caribbean island.

Princess Beatrix of the Netherlands will join event Coach Minister Michelle Hooyboer Winklaar meets Aruba's Kingdom Youth Parliament representatives



The team members who will represent Aruba at the upcoming Kingdom Youth Parliament debate in Sint Maarten have been selected and met with their coach this week at the government offices in Oranjestad. (see story on pg 3)

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Doctors stage protest in Venezuela

CARACAS (AFP) - Several hundred doctors and medical students protested conditions in Venezuela's hospitals Monday, citing shortages of medicines and critical supplies in the troubled oil-rich country.

As police held back the demonstrators in the city's Plaza Venezuela, other health workers marched without incident through the center to the presidential palace in a government-organized show of support for President Nicolas Maduro.

The rival protests were the latest in an unresolved, nearly five-week-old crisis that has claimed the lives of at least 20 people.

Another victim was reported over the weekend in the western Andean city of Merida, Giselle Rubilar, a 47-year-old Chilean national.

Chile's outgoing President Sebastian Pinera said in Santiago Monday he had asked Venezuela to investigate her death of a gunshot wound to the head.

Continued on pg 6

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Young A.B.B.A champions honored with award ceremony at Paseo Herencia



ABBA President Daryl Irausquin and Valerie Pietersz of Paseo Herencia



As many may know by now, baseball is a national pastime on Aruba, where the local Amateur Baseball Bond Aruba, or A.B.B.A. has proved to be a training ground for some well known players in the Major Leagues, such as Xander Bogaerts.

A.B.B.A. honored their great players of the future, ages five to sixteen, during an informal ceremony hosted by Paseo Herencia Shopping Mall, an enthusiastic sponsor and supporter of many of Aruba's young athletes.

The annual award ceremony for the champion and



sub-champions in six divisions took place on Saturday evening, March 8 in the Plaza Padu.

A.B.B.A. President Daryl Irausquin was accompanied by Secretary Rudy Wester, and Director of Aruba's Little League, Gregory Chirino in presenting the young players with their medals and trophies.

Champions in the Rookie AA Division, ages 5 to 6 years old, was the Hurricanes team, with Marlins Hawaii Punch coming in as Sub Champions. In the same division, ages 7 to 8, the champion team was the Centro di Barrio Noord Divi Impact team, with Hurricanes coming in second.

The Children's A Division, ages 9 to 10 winners were the Hurricanes again, with Grasshoppers tak-

ing the Sub Champion Trophy. The Children's AA Division Champions of players ages 11 to 12, was the Stars team, with Centro di Barrio Noord in second place.

In the two youth divisions, A and AA, the champions were Quereos in the 13 to 14 years old category and Indians in the 15-16 years, respectively. Youth A sub champions were the Giants Frisian Flag and AA sub champions were the Braves Amore Mio.

Continued on pg 4





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Call for the community to join in ...

Continued from pg 1



Fundacion Herencia Cultural Imaterial does not provide funding, but will assist in directing the groups to various organizations that do, such as the Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds, and advise on how to obtain financial support.

The scope of what is considered intangible culture is vast. "The domain of intangible cultural heritage is concerned with regional and traditional knowledge, skills and practices with regards to the interaction between human beings and their environment. It includes know-how on agriculture, forestry and water management as well as the handling of natural resources in terms of traditional medicines and cures."

Groups that propagate oral traditions, such as stories, legends, fairy tales and fa-

bles, poems, prayers and spells are eligible, as "language as a vehicle of the intangible cultural heritage is one of the most fundamental preconditions for the safeguarding of traditions." Social Practices, rituals and festive events "structure our daily routine their connection to the various stages and circles of our lives," which qualifies the groups dedicated to their preservation.

Examples of these various practices include, on Aruba, the Dande tradition, distinct to the island. On Bonaire, Maskarada, which takes place on the First Sunday after Epiphany, a festive march through the streets, but such demonstrations are not the only traditions which qualify. On Curacao, the practice of Filingrana, the art of forging golden and silver thread into fine jewelry is dying out. On Saba, drawn-thread lace work, sometimes referred to as "Spanish Work," is becoming a lost art, and on St. Eustatius, the baking of a bread called "hard cakes," in wood fire ovens made just for that purpose out

of volcanic rock, is considered an intangible cultural aspect worthy of being on the program.

Ms. Jie-Sam-Foek also points out that not only what is natively Aruban can qualify to be part of the program. Aruba has, by proportion to its small population, large immigrant communities comprised of Chinese, Filipinos, East Indian, Venezuelan, and Colombian peoples,

among a number of others. Many are now second and third generation Arubans, but the leaders of their communities struggle to keep alive among their progeny the cultural aspects of their homelands, while still being integrated into the island community. The foundation feels this multicultural diversity is healthy, and encourage these groups to also participate in the program.

Guidelines for preparing

applications to be part of the UNESCO Convention on Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage and the steps necessary to qualify will be outlined for all interested parties during the informative evening at the public library. The evening begins at 7:00 PM Those interested are encouraged to attend, visit their Facebook page or contact Gin Jie Sam Foek at the public library, e-mail gjie-sam-foek@bibliotecanacional.aw.

Princess Beatrix of the Netherlands will join event Coach Minister Michelle Hooyboer Winklaar meets Aruba's Kingdom Youth Parliament representatives

ORANJESTAD -- The team members who will represent Aruba at the upcoming Kingdom Youth Parliament debate in Sint Maarten have been selected and met with their coach this week at the government offices in Oranjestad.

The Kingdom Youth Parliament, which is being organized in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the existence of the Dutch Kingdom features teams from Curacao, Sint Maarten, The Netherlands, Aruba and a team that consists of youth from the so-called BES-islands - Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba.

Each team has a coach, who was approached directly by the organizing committee to accept this task. For Aruba, Minister Michelle Hooyboer-Winklaar enthusiastically accepted the responsibility and as soon as the team members

were selected, invited Team Aruba for an introductory meeting to start preparing for the upcoming debate.

"I am impressed with the team's enthusiasm about the event. Most of them had not met each other before this first meeting and by the end they were already making arrangements to prepare as a team, and the commitment to be well prepared to be the island that is best represented in Sint Maarten," the minister said after the meeting. "They are eager to start with the training sessions we have planned for them," she added.

To assure that the team have sufficient time and have full attention for the preparations for their participation during the event, a decision was made to wait until they complete their school exams and will begin after the Carnival season. Training ses-

sions will take off in the first week of March, which allows for two full months of training before the debate. Many of the youth involved have taken part of a debate before and have some experience, however it is necessary that additional training take place and they are well informed on a broad range of topics related to Aruba. It is also useful that they are abreast of developments on the other islands and in The Netherlands to be able to compare the situations in those countries to that of Aruba and to exchange information and ideas with the other teams. It was very recently announced that Princess Beatrix will be joining the event, and will experience the debates first hand. A special program is being created for the Princess in connection with the celebration of 200 years of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.



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Young A.B.B.A champions honored...




Unfortunately, not all teams could attend, as they are in the midst of the Little League season, where teams are competing to represent Aruba in the Caribbean championships, with the hope of making it to the Little League World Series in the summer. Various parties representing the teams accepted their trophies and medals on their behalf.

A.B.B.A. gives all island youth the opportunity to participate and develop their skills, and the directorship expressed their gratitude to all the umpires, coaches and scorekeepers who volunteer their time toward making the season a success. Paseo Herencia General Manager Valerie Pietersz-Canacho expressed the steadfast support of the mall in all youthful athletic endeavors, which provide important, healthy pastimes for island children.

By Rosalie Klein





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Traffic changes in Dr. Schaepmanstraat/Pastoor Hendrikstraat



SAN NICOLAS – The Department of Public Works – DOW – announces to the public in general and motorists in particular that as of yesterday, March 10, the road Dr. Schaepmanstraat/Pastoor Hendrikstraat is closed. The closure is due to renovation work in the Pastoor Hendrikstraat and repair work at the crossing of Dr. Schaepmanstraat/Pastoor Hendrikstraat.

The road will be closed for all traffic until Friday, April 4th, 2014. There are traffic signs and barricades to advise motorists. DOW kindly asks all motorists to NOT use abovementioned roads.

DOW asks for everyone's understanding and apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause.



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Weather Update Aruba



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MAJORITY OF RAINCLOUDS ARE PASSING TO THE NORTH OF OUR AREA.

MODELS SHOW THAT THE WEATHER IS NOT GOING TO CHANGE MUCH OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

MARINE CONDITIONS: WAVE DIRECTION EAST-NORTHEASTERLY WITH WAVEHEIGHT OF 3 TO 5 FEET.

EXPECTATIONS FOR THE WEEK:

MOSTLY SUNNY SKIES AND GENERALLY DRY.

TRADEWINDS REMAIN MODERATE TO FRESH.

TEMPERATURE IS FLUCTUATING AROUND NORMAL.

CLIMATE OUTLOOK:

MOST CLIMATE MODELS INDICATE THAT RAINFALL AMOUNTS FOR ARUBA SHOULD REMAIN NORMAL.

TO A TAB BELOW NORMAL FOR THE PERIOD MARCH 2014 TO MAY 2014.

FOR THE PERIOD MAY 2014 TO AUGUST 2014 EXPECT BELOW-NORMAL RAINFALL TOTALS.

SURFACE TEMPERATURE SHOULD HOVER NEAR NORMAL FOR THE PERIOD MARCH 2014 TO MAY 2014.

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Cas Animal Cont'd Free Frito! Aruba is going to the birds!



Kirsten and apprentice Staphanie with Maureen and the Heywoods

ORANJESTAD -- The Cas Animal Foundation of Aruba is dedicated to rescuing abandoned and abused dogs off-island streets, ideally to be placed in a good home. No matter how badly injured or weakened by disease, Cas Animal founder, Kirsten Arndt, has discovered hundreds of times over that with proper medical care, they can be rehabilitated to be a wonderful friend to a loving person. Often, their afflictions are only superficial, but rendering them unattractive, which is no reason, in Kirsten's opinion, to deprive them of a happy life and the chance to be a loyal, loving companion. Kirsten also maintains an animal ambulance, and can be

contacted to report a dog in distress at any time.

However, the foundation is not only about saving Aruba's street dogs, but is ready to offer assistance for any animal in distress, whenever possible. In the case of "Frito," it was a beautiful speckled pigeon, which had made the beach around Playa Linda Resort its home.

The inhabitants of Playa Linda Resort who camp out on the shorefront for a few weeks of every year are quite accustomed to the pigeons that stroll around or curl up under their beach lounges. One in particular had become almost a pet to Donna and Pat from Cape Cod and their friends Maureen Glynn and

Judy Heywood of Canada. They became quite concerned when they noticed the lovely bird was dragging its leg, and had no idea where to turn to help the injured creature. They read about Kirsten and Cas Animal in THE MORNING NEWS and felt it worth a try, and the foundation responded to their call.

Named "Frito" because the ladies who captured the bird housed it kept it in a ventilated Frito-Lay box, the bird was transported to Contreras Animal Clinic where the vets discovered it had very fine monofilament, probably a light fishing line, tightly wound around his leg and foot. Working with special magnifying goggles, and precise surgical instruments, they very carefully cut it away. Frito unfortunately lost one claw on his/her foot, which had withered from lack of circulation. After three days of recuperating at the Cas Animal shelter and being treated with an antibiotic cream, the bird was ready to be released back to its favorite perch.

The honors were done by Judy and her husband Neil along with Maureen. Their fellow beach mates witness-



Frito takes off!

ing Frito's flight applauded their efforts were very happy to see the bird take flight and return to their beach.

The Cas Animal Foundation has a strict no-kill policy for all animals that need treatment and can be rescued. Whether new homes are found for rescued dogs, or not they will be cared for and loved at the refuge. There are now approximately 70 dogs under their care, a number of which are not puppies, and will likely never be adopted. The medical and feeding costs of all the rescued animals is never ending. Those wishing to support Kirsten's work with donations can do so in the form of payment to the Cas Animal Foundation account at the Contreras Veterinary Clinics, call: 587-0917. Donations can also be made directly to the founda-

tion's account: Cas Animal Foundation, CMB Bank account # 25762110. For more great Cas Animal success stories, and to contact the foundation, visit their Facebook page "Cas Animal Aruba"



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Doctors stage protest in Venezuela

Cont. from pg 1

"Apparently there was a barricade near where she was living. She approached it and that's where she was reportedly hit by the bullet that caused her death," Chilean Foreign Minister Alfredo Moreno said.

Venezuelan doctors and medical students turned out in their white lab coats with signs denouncing the state of health care in the country.

"Not only bullets kill, the lack of medicine does too," read one sign.

The president of the Venezuelan Medical Federation, Douglas Leon, said 95 percent of hospitals have only five percent of the supplies needed to take care of patients.

"The hospitals are deteriorated, supplies aren't available and we have to tell patients to buy their own," medical student Catherine Acosta, 20, told AFP.

Meanwhile, at the Miraflores presidential palace, Maduro touted the 2,500 medical students who he said will graduate this year from programs in partnership with allies like Cuba.

Cuba provides an estimated 40,000 doctors and

health care workers to staff clinics for poor and hard to reach populations in Venezuela.

In exchange, Venezuela supplies Cuba with 100,000 barrels of oil a day at preferential rates.

Boeing joining Malaysia crash investigation

NEW YORK (AFP) - Boeing said Monday it has joined an official US team investigating the still-mysterious disappearance of a Malaysia Airlines 777 aircraft, feared to have plunged into the Gulf of Thailand.

Boeing said it would act as technical advisor to the US National Transportation Safety Board team already in Southeast Asia to offer assistance.

The Malaysia Airlines plane that went missing Saturday on a flight from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing was a Boeing 777, a model which up to now has seen only one fatal crash.

The popular family of long-range, wide-body, twin-engined planes have a solid safety record and have been among the world's most widely flown passenger jets since first entering service in 1995.

In the sole fatal crash involving the planes, a Boeing 777-200 operated by South Korea's Asiana Airlines skidded off the runway upon landing at San Francisco's international airport in July 2013, with three dead as a result.

The Malaysia Airlines flight that lost contact with authorities Saturday was a Boeing 777-200, with 239 people aboard.

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World Bank ready to provide \$3 billion aid to Ukraine

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The World Bank said Monday it is prepared to offer \$3 billion in aid to Ukraine this year to support economic reforms and development by its beleaguered new interim government.

The Bank received a request from the Kiev authorities, which took power last month after Ukraine's former Russian-backed president Viktor Yanukovich was ousted.

"We are committed to supporting the people of Ukraine in these difficult times and very much hope that the situation in the country stabilizes soon," Bank president Jim Yong Kim said.

"We are moving forward with our pipeline of projects and aim to support the government to undertake the reforms badly needed to put the

economy on a path to sustainability."

The bank said the Ukraine economy faces some serious challenges that will require "urgent action in the short term", as well as sustained reform over the longer term.

It said the key priorities are restoring macroeconomic stability, shoring up the country's banks, reforming to the energy sector and "seriously tackling corruption."

The \$3 billion for 2014 would be in addition to an ongoing multiyear Bank investment and guarantee program in Ukraine that totals about \$3.7 billion and supports development of crucial infrastructure such as the water supply, sanitation, power and roads.

The World Bank offer comes amid a growing effort involving at least the Interna-

tional Monetary Fund, the United States, and European powers to help strengthen the new authorities in Ukraine.

Washington has already offered \$1 billion in loan guarantees and last week European Commission president Jose Manuel Barroso announced aid of "at least" 11 billion euros (\$15.3 billion).

The IMF has been pushed into the forefront of efforts in part to ensure the country undertakes adequate and transparent reforms to its finances and institutions.

After two days of talks with Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk and his economic team, IMF European Department Director Reza Moghadam said Friday he was "positively impressed" with their sense of responsibility and commitment to economic reform.

REMEMBER

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up**

Left, right both claim win in Salvadoran presidential runoff

SAN SALVADOR (AFP) - The parties of both candidates in El Salvador's surprisingly tight presidential runoff clash claimed victory late Sunday.

Pre-election polls indicated that ex-guerrilla leader Salvador Sanchez Ceren of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) would easily defeat Norman Quijano with the conservative ARENA party.

But with all of the returns tallied, the leftist candidate was leading by a tiny margin: 50.11 percent to 49.98, electoral authorities reported.

But his ARENA counterpart was convinced its side had won.

Quijano claimed victory in a speech to supporters, and insisted that he would not allow "fraud of the Chavista or (Nicolas) Maduro style like in Venezuela."

He claimed that El Salvador's military was "aware of the fraud that is being perpetrated" by election authorities along with the FMLN.

Sanchez Ceren had conciliatory words for his rival.

"We can say right now that you have the doors open to work with us to move El Salvador forward," he said.

Election officials, likely expecting that vote results will be challenged and there will be calls for a recount, urged both sides to wait for final results.

After the civil war, El Salvador found itself facing violence from the street gangs, which control whole neighborhoods and run drug distribution and extortion rackets.

Homicides were running at 14 per day until a truce was reached between the two main gangs in March 2012, which helped to halve the murder rate. But extortion and other crimes persist.

The maras are believed have around 60,000 members, 10,000 of whom are behind bars.

Whoever wins and takes office on June 1 will face a shaky economy.

Forty percent of El Salvador's six million people live in poverty, and the country relies heavily on remittances sent by Salvadorans living abroad - around \$4 billion a year, or 16 percent of the country's GDP.



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Fukushima: three years on and still a long road ahead

FUKUSHIMA DAICHI, (AFP) - In complete darkness, a group of men tried everything they could to save the Fukushima nuclear plant from catastrophe. Their struggle was in vain.

Three years later, the control room at the site of the worst atomic crisis in a generation -- which forced a hard look at Japan's energy policy -- sits as a grim time capsule.

Helmets, masks, several pairs of gloves and overalls remain as reporters are taken on a tour of the inner sanctum, a first since the accident.

Notes are scribbled awkwardly on walls in rooms with levers, dials, and buttons, reminders of March 11, 2011, when a towering wall of water plunged the site into darkness and sent reactors into meltdown.

What was happening inside the reactor core was unknown to the workers who fought hour after hour before they were forced to abandon part of the doomed site.

Not far away in the destroyed reactors, radioactivity is so strong that it remains a no-go area.

Workers now at the site have yet to even start dismantling the crippled reactors, a process not expected to begin for another



six years, part of a decommissioning process expected to stretch over decades.

Several thousand employees are locked in a daily -- and dangerous -- scramble under harsh conditions to keep the site as safe as possible, making a myriad of repairs and building tanks for the vast amounts of contaminated water.

The company poured thousands of tonnes of water onto runaway reactors to keep them cool, and continues to douse them, but has to store and clean that water in a growing number of temporary tanks at the site.

TEPCO has warned it is running out of storage space and many experts believe the water will eventually have to be dumped into the sea after

being scoured of its most harmful contaminants.

Local fishermen, neighbouring countries and environmental groups all oppose the idea.

Last year, the embattled firm said around 300 tonnes of radioactive liquid were believed to have escaped, a serious incident that underscored the litany of ongoing problems at Fukushima.

The crisis forced the shutdown of Japan's 50 nuclear reactors, which remain offline as anti-atomic sentiment ripples through communities big and small in the country of 128 million.

Tens of thousands of citizens turned out for an anti-nuclear rally in Tokyo on Sunday to voice their anger at the nuclear industry and the govern-

ment of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who has called for resumption of reactors to power the world's third-largest economy.

Abe repeated his view Monday that any reactors which can be deemed safe would be turned back on, burying a move by the previous government to make Japan a zero-nuclear country by 2040.

But critics say that TEPCO's clumsy management of the crisis and wider concerns about the accident -- including long-term health fears -- should keep nuclear offline for good.

The government has backed a push into solar power and wind farms, among other renewable energy sources, but they still make up a tiny portion of Japan's energy needs.

The loss of nuclear power, which once supplied more than a quarter of Japan's power, has also created huge trade imbalances owing to surging imports of fossil-fuel alternatives to plug the energy gap, made all the more expensive as the yen weakened sharply since Abe swept to office in 2012.

Another issue is that the move to fossil fuels has stoked worries that Japan would not meet its commitment to cut greenhouse-gas emissions, while making it more dependent on other nations for its en-



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Condom maker Reckitt expands into K-Y sexual lubricants

LONDON (AFP) - Britain's Reckitt Benckiser, the maker of Durex condoms, is expanding into K-Y sexual lubricants, the consumer goods company revealed on Monday.

The London-listed firm has agreed to buy global rights to the K-Y brand from McNEIL-PPC, Inc, a subsidiary of US rival Johnson & Johnson, for an undisclosed amount, it said in a statement.

"K-Y, as a global leader in intimate lubricants with very high trust score among women, will sit alongside the Reckitt Benckiser power-brand Durex to create a unique portfolio of brands in the sexual wellbeing category," it added.

"Its addition will immediately transform RB's sexual well-being category in the USA and Brazil."

Net sales of K-Y, which is sold in more than 50 countries, stood at above \$100 million (72 million euros) last year, Reckitt said.

The United States, Canada and Brazil accounted for the majority of K-Y's sales in 2013.

No employees or fixed assets are included in the purchase, which is expected to complete in mid-2014.

Heroin epidemic creating 'urgent' overdose crisis: US

WASHINGTON (AFP) - A sharp rise in US deaths from heroin and prescription abuse has created an "urgent public health crisis," Attorney General Eric Holder declared Monday, promising tougher enforcement and improved drug treatment.

In a statement on the Department of Justice website, Holder said deaths from overdosing on heroin had risen by 45 percent between 2006 and 2010.

"Right now, few substances are more lethal than prescription opiates and heroin," Holder said.

"The cycle of heroin abuse commonly begins with prescription opiate abuse," Holder said, calling rise in use of the illegal opiate "a sad but not unpredictable symptom of

the significant increase in prescription drug abuse we've seen over the past decade."

Holder urged firefighters and ambulance workers to carry the overdose-reversal drug naloxone, which can restore breathing to the victim of a heroine or opioid overdose.

He also is encouraging US law enforcement agencies to train and equip their personnel about how to administer the drug.

The Justice Department said 17 US states, as well as the city of Washington, DC, have amended their laws to increase access to the drug, reversing more than 10,000 overdoses since 2001.

Holder also pledged more robust law enforcement to fight against "practitioners

that illegally dispense prescriptions, pharmacists that fill those prescriptions, and distributors that send controlled substances downstream without due diligence efforts," the top US prosecutor said.

The epidemic of heroin use in the United States came into an international spotlight last month after the death of Oscar-winning actor Philip Seymour Hoffman.

Hoffman, 46, died in his New York apartment on February 2 after taking a cocktail of drugs that included heroin, an autopsy report said.

More than 50 sachets of the illegal opiate were found in Hoffman's apartment at the time of his death, and he was known to have past problems with drug addiction.



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WHO recommends halving daily sugar intake in fight against obesity

GENEVA (AFP) - The World Health Organisation Wednesday said the recommended amount of sugar consumed daily should be halved as it stepped up its battle against public health problems like obesity and tooth decay.

The UN health agency said it was maintaining its 2002 guidelines that sugars should make up less than 10 percent of total daily energy intake but stressed that half would be preferable.

Cutting sugar consumption to just five percent of total energy intake would mean an adult with a normal Body Mass Index (BMI) should consume no more than about six teaspoons per day.

That includes all sugar added to food and beverages as well as natural sugar in things like honey, syrups and fruit juice, WHO said.

"A high level of consumption of free sugars is of concern, because of its association with poor dietary quality, obesity" and the risk

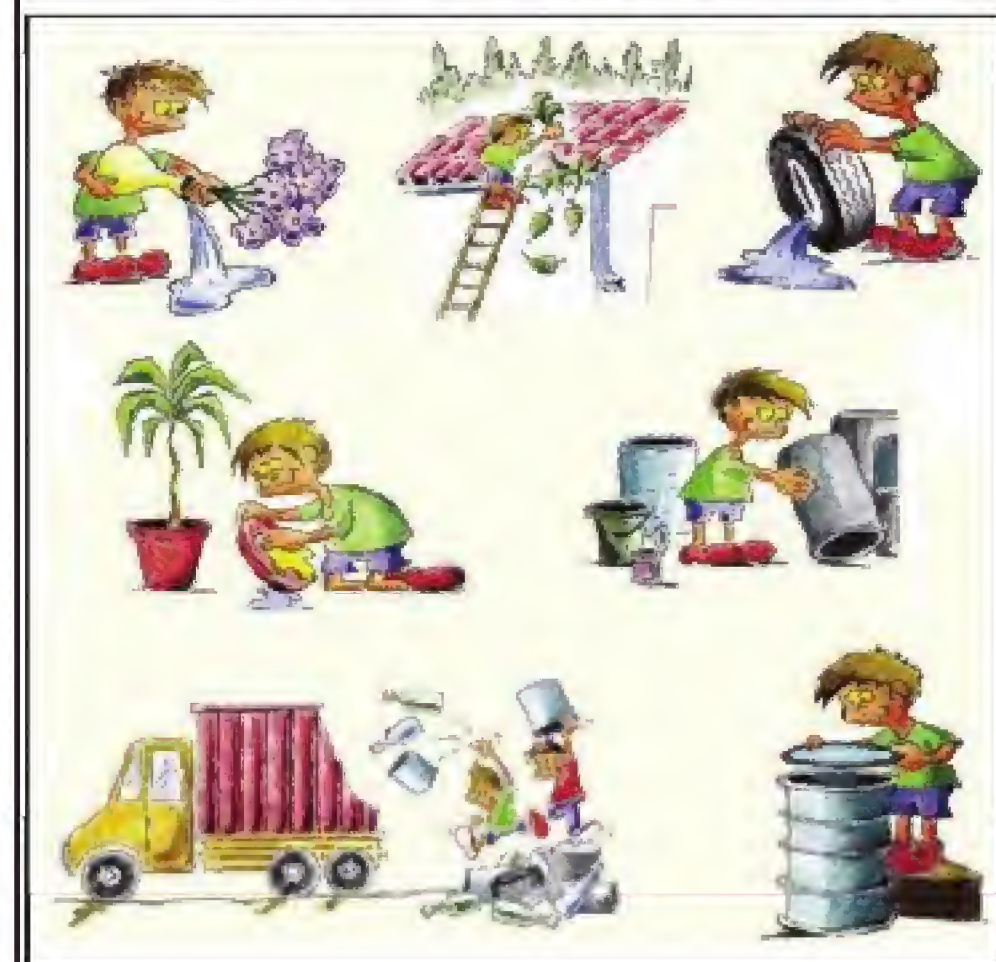
of non-communicable diseases, the agency said in its draft guidance.

At least 2.8 million adults die each year as a result of being overweight or obese, not counting the large percentage of diabetes, heart disease and cancer cases attributable to being overweight, according to WHO numbers, which also show that more than 40 million children under the age of five are overweight.

Tooth decay is also a major, and very expensive health problem, the agency said Wednesday, stressing that treatment of dental disease costs up to 10 percent of healthcare budgets in industrialised countries.

"Much of the sugars consumed today are 'hidden' in processed foods that are not usually seen as sweets," WHO warned, pointing out that a single can of sugar-sweetened soda contains about 40 grammes, or 10 teaspoons of sugar.

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Cameraman recounts death of 'Crocodile Hunter' Irwin

SYDNEY (AFP) - The cameraman who witnessed the death of Australian "Crocodile Hunter" Steve Irwin on Monday revealed a stingray stabbed at him "hundreds of times" and his final words were "I'm dying."

The television personality and conservationist, who became world-famous for his daring stunts with dangerous animals, died aged 44 in 2006 while filming a documentary on the Great Barrier Reef in far north Queensland.

Justin Lyons was the cameraman at the time and shot video of the tragic death, which was later handed to Irwin's widow Terri and has never been aired.

In his first public comments, Lyons told Australia's Channel Ten he and Irwin had left their main boat in an inflatable to find something to film when they came across a "massive" eight-foot wide stingray in chest-high water.

The final shot was to be the stingray swimming away from Irwin. Instead, it struck out, apparently believing Irwin's shadow was a tiger shark, one of its predators. "I had the camera on, I thought this is going to be a great shot, and all of sudden it propped on its front and started stabbing wildly, hundreds of strikes in a few seconds," Lyons said.

"I panned with the camera as the stingray swam away and I didn't know it had



caused any damage. It was only when I panned the camera back that I saw Steve standing in a huge pool of blood that I realised something had gone wrong."

He said reports that a barb had stuck in Irwin's chest and he pulled it out were wrong.

"It's a jagged barb and it went through his chest like a hot knife through butter," he said. "He had a two-inch-wide injury over his heart with blood and fluid coming out of it and we had to get him back to the boat as fast as we can," Lyons added. "I was saying to him things like 'think of your kids Steve, hang on, hang on, hang on', and he calmly looked up at me and said 'I'm dying' and that was the last thing he said."

Stingrays have several sharp and venomous barbs on their tails that they use to defend themselves when they feel threatened, though experts at the time stressed that stingrays were not usually vicious and rarely attacked and killed humans.

First Indian film museum to open in home of Bollywood

MUMBAI (AFP) - Seven years in the making and costing nearly \$20 million, the first Indian film museum is set to open in the home of Bollywood, more than 100 years after the country's celebrated movie industry was born.

The government-funded National Museum of Indian Cinema, set in an elegant 19th century heritage bungalow in south Mumbai, traces Indian cinema's history from the black-and-white silent era to its musical modern blockbusters.

Spread across two floors of the 6,000 square foot building, the museum showcases original artefacts, memorabilia, recordings and film-making tools.

The idea is to celebrate not just Hindi-language Bollywood, but also the films made in the various regions and languages across India, a country that produces nearly 1,500 movies a year.

Neil Young unveils high-definition music player, store



WASHINGTON (AFP) - Singer-songwriter Neil Young announced plans Monday to launch a high-definition portable music player and download service, saying it will improve the experience of listening to digital music on the go. The Canadian-born musician, a longtime critic of the quality of digital music, said he would be launching an online store for music downloads as well as a portable player through his new company, PonoMusic. "It's about the music, real music," Young said in a statement. "We want to move digital music into the 21st century and PonoMusic does that. We couldn't be more excited -- not for ourselves, but for those that are moved by what music means in their lives." The PonoPlayer will be sold online for \$399 on the crowdfunding website Kickstarter later this week, the statement said. The PonoMusic website was not operating Monday. Young was scheduled to talk about the new service this week at the SXSW festival in Austin, Texas. The technology in the PonoPlayer was developed with the engineering team at Ayre Acoustics, in Boulder Colorado. The statement did not include technical specifications.

Drug-laden drone found 'hovering' near Australian prison

SYDNEY (AFP) - Australian police on Monday said they had arrested a man after a drone allegedly carrying drugs was seen "hovering in the vicinity of a prison".

Victoria state police said the unmanned aerial vehicle, which was carrying a small quantity of drugs, was found near the Metropolitan Remand Centre in Melbourne's west on Sunday.

"A man and a woman were located in a car ... with what was believed to be a drone

with four engines and a small quantity of drugs," Victoria Police said in a statement.

The 28-year-old man was charged with possessing a drug of dependence and attempting to commit an indictable offence and was bailed to appear in court later this month.

Police refused to give any details on the size of the drone, a technology already deployed by the military but increasingly used in aerial photography and law enforcement.

Double mastectomy wiser for telltale gene: study

PARIS (AFP) - Women diagnosed with breast cancer caused by a notorious gene have a much better survival chance if they have both breasts removed instead of one, a study said.

Out of 100 women with a BRCA gene mutation who have a double mastectomy for early breast cancer, 87 will be alive after 20 years, it said.

This compares to 66 of every 100 who opt for a single amputation, according to the research published in the British Medical Journal (BMJ).

For those who have had one breast removed, "the possibility of a second surgery should be discussed," they advised.

Breast cancer has multiple sources, but the best-known inherited causes are the so-called BRCA1 or BRCA2 (for BRCA2 Cancer susceptibility) genes that carry telltale mutations.

About 0.2 percent of women carry a harmful variant of these genes.

It boosts their lifetime risk of contracting breast cancer to as much as 80 percent compared to about 10 percent among women without the mutation. These women also run a high risk of recurrence after treatment.

The mastectomy question was thrown into the spotlight last year when Hollywood star Angelina Jolie announced she had both breasts surgically removed as a preventative measure after tests revealed she carried the BRCA mutation. She had not been diagnosed with the disease.

Rocker Ozzy Osbourne's wife, Sharon, did the same the

previous year.

There were some 521,000 breast cancer deaths in 2012, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO). It is the most common type of cancer among women.

For the study, specialists in Canada and the United States compared the survival rates of 390 women diagnosed with early-stage breast cancer between 1975 and 2009.

They were all known carriers or likely carriers of a mutation in the BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene.

Of the group, 79 women died in the follow-up period -- 18 of them had had a double mastectomy and 61 a single one.

The study said half of women in North America with a BRCA mutation opt for a double breast removal to prevent a second cancer.

Another study in the same journal, meanwhile, cast doubt on the value of annual mammogram screening of women aged 40 to 59.

It is the latest evidence in a long-running debate about the usefulness of a costly procedure that sometimes results in over-diagnosis -- the discovery (and treatment) of cancers that would never have caused symptoms or death during a woman's lifetime.

Analysing the results of a 25-year Canadian study with nearly 90,000 women, researchers said mammograms were no more effective at preventing cancer deaths than physical breast examination.

Annual mammography "does not result in a reduction in breast cancer mortality for women aged 40-59", the team wrote.



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Snowden: NSA leaks fueled needed debate on spying

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Former intelligence contractor Edward Snowden said Monday he has no regrets over his leaks about mass surveillance programs, saying they sparked a needed public debate on spying and data collection.

Snowden, who spoke via video link from Russia to the SXSW festival in Austin, Texas, said he revealed the programs of the US National Security Agency and other such services to foster "a better civic understanding" about what had been secret programs.

He said his decision to leak documents to journalists "wasn't so I could single handedly change the government; what I wanted to do was inform the public so they could provide their consent to what we should do."

Snowden, a former NSA contractor who has been in hiding in Russia and has been charged in the United States with espionage, maintained that "every society in the world has benefited" from the debate on surveillance.

"Regardless of what happens to me, this is something we have a right to know," he said on the link with members of the American Civil Liberties Union, who noted that the hookup was routed through seven proxy servers to keep his location secure.

Snowden, who appeared against a backdrop of a giant copy of the US constitution, said the NSA programs have fundamentally altered the rights outlined in the charter.

Snowden said he chose to speak to SXSW because he believes it is important to encourage technology companies to

make changes to stem mass surveillance.

Snowden said more companies should adopt robust encryption that is built into communications without users having to use complex technical tools.

He maintained that if encryption is too complex, "people aren't going to use it, it has to happen automatically, it has to happen seamlessly."

If online communications are fully encrypted at all stages, Snowden said, bulk data collection would become too difficult for intelligence agencies.

He also said the NSA and other agencies have devoted too many resources to this type of bulk collection and not enough to traditional methods to catch criminals and terrorists.

"We've had tremendous intelligence failures because we are monitoring everybody's communications, instead of suspects," he said.

He cited the Boston marathon bombings as an example, saying "if we hadn't spent so much on mass surveillance, if we followed traditional models, we might have caught" the suspects.

New McAfee Report Shows Growing Threat Of Cybercrime In Retail

A new report out on Monday from McAfee Labs, the research arm of the company that makes cyber security software, reveals the proliferation of malware that steals consumers' personal data, and how easy it is for thieves to get their hands on this malware. This booming sector of the cybercrime industry led to an unprecedented number of records stolen at the end of last year at point-of-sale systems — or the point when consumers pay for goods at a store. What is disturbing, according to the report, is that thieves can easily make off-the-shelf purchases of malware and target their attacks to steal whatever information they want from consumers. There's more malware out there than ever before, and it's never been easier to buy it and use it to steal credit card information. The report, which is based on cybercrime data from the fourth quarter of 2013, offers some explanation for the large-scale and invasive data breaches at the end of last year, including one that hit up to 110 million Target customers during the peak of holiday shopping. Neiman Marcus was also hit with a data breach that likely involved more than 1.1 million debit and credit cards, and Sears last month began investigating a possible security breach with Secret Service, although it has not yet found evidence of an attack.



Daily Exchange Rates

Current as of: 03/10/2014

	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.77	1.79	1.82
Britain	GBP	2.80	2.85	3.01
Switzerland	CHF	191.71	192.43	204.20
Netherlands	EUR	230.59	232.69	249.71
Sweden	SEK	25.91	26.63	28.40
Denmark	DKK	30.23	30.95	33.69
Norway	NOK	30.67	31.39	30.40
Japan	JPY	214.88	216.84	174.15

(per 10,000)

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Paris, still the world's no.1 tourist destination

PARIS (AFP) - Some 32.3 million tourists say France's city of light and romance can't be beat.

Paris was once again last year the world's top tourist destination, the regional tourism body said on Monday, citing hotel occupancies.

Despite some tough global economic conditions, it said 2013 was a very good year for tourism in Paris and the surrounding Ile-de-France region, with foreign visitors at "the highest level in 10 years".

The nearly 15.5 million foreign visitors to the French capital represented an 8.2 percent increase from 2012. The largest number (2.1 million) came across the Channel from

Britain, followed by the Americans, Germans, Italians and Chinese.

It also marked the first time the Chinese topped the list of tourists from Asia with 881,000 flocking to Paris, surpassing the Japanese.

There was also a nearly 21-percent increase in visitors from the Middle East, according to the Ile-de-France Regional Tourism Committee.

Ironically, it was the French themselves who seemed less enthusiastic about visiting their world famous capital last year, with the number of French tourists in Parisian hotels dropping by 7.5 percent from 2012.

eBay cuts chief executive's pay

NEW YORK - Ecommerce group eBay cut in half the total compensation of its chief executive last year after falling short of its financial goals, the company revealed in a filing with the SEC.

Amid a fierce fight with ac-

tivist shareholder Carl Icahn over the future of the company, chief executive John Donahoe took home \$13.8m in 2013, just 53 per cent of what he received the previous year when he was given \$14.9m of performance-related share awards. His cash bonus of \$1.6m was 81.6 per cent of eBay's target, as the company said it did not meet its goals for the year.

High quality global journalism requires investment. Please share this article with others using the link below, do not cut & paste the article. See our Ts&Cs and Copyright Policy for more detail. The pay cut comes in the middle of a push by Mr Icahn, who owns more than 2 per cent of eBay's common shares, to get the company to spin off its PayPal subsidiary.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

MBA	MUM	SSW
POSH	ISA	NOLA
HOPE	SON	ISIN
OVER	YAK	
DRINKER	FEWER	
REEK	POL	LIVE
SOWER	DECODES	
LUG	AIDES	
HEALTH	FOE	
AXLE	OWL	OPTS
LAIR	SHE	NORA
ENT	TOT	TAX

Oil prices drop after weak Chinese trade data

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Global oil prices fell Monday as weak Chinese trade data stoked concerns over demand in the world's second largest economy.

New York's main contract, West Texas Intermediate (WTI) for delivery in April, sank \$1.46 cents to \$101.12 a barrel.

And in London Brent North Sea crude for April fell 92 cents to stand at \$108.08 a barrel in London deals.

"The sharp decline in Chinese exports in February is fueling fears that the global economy could be slowing down," said Commerzbank

analyst Carsten Fritsch.

"That said, the February data are distorted by the Chinese New Year celebrations, meaning that the situation will only become really clear once the figures for March have been published."

Chinese official figures released Saturday that showed the world's second biggest economy recorded an unexpected \$22.98 billion trade deficit in February.

The figure compared with what analysts expected would be a surplus of \$11.9 billion.

"Any time there are concerns about China's growth and the numbers point that

way, that will obviously put downward pressure on oil prices, especially Brent prices," David Lennox, resource analyst at Fat Prophets in Sydney, told AFP.

Investors continue to keep a close watch on the geopolitical crisis in Ukraine, as pro-Russian activists clashed with pro-Kiev supporters in mass rallies across the ex-Soviet state Sunday.

Meanwhile in Libya authorities stopped a North Korean-flagged tanker as it left a rebel-held port on Monday with an "illegal" shipment of crude, a military source said.

Libya halts tanker loaded with rebel oil: military source

BENGHAZI (AFP) - Libyan authorities stopped a North Korean-flagged tanker as it left a rebel-held port on Monday with an "illegal" shipment of crude, a military source said.

Former rebels calling for autonomy for eastern Libya have been blockading the port of Al-Sidra and other key export terminals in the region since July last year.

On Saturday, they began loading crude onto the North Korean-flagged Morning Glory which docked in Al-Sidra.

On Monday, the navy intercepted the ship as it left the terminal with orders to escort it "towards a port controlled by the state," a military source told AFP on condition of anonymity.

The country's highest politi-

cal authority, the General National Congress, confirmed the interception, Libyan broadcaster Al-Nabaa reported.

Walid al-Tarhuni, spokesman for the former rebels who had been blockading the terminals, told Al-Nabaa the tanker was probably heading for the port of Zawiyah, 50 kilometres (30 miles) west of the capital Tripoli, to unload its cargo.

Oil Minister Omar al-Shakmak had said earlier that the ship had interrupted loading late Sunday and put back to sea.

The 350,000 barrel-capacity vessel had only loaded 234,000 barrels of crude, according to a member of a crisis team formed by the government.

The official told AFP the

navy would not allow the vessel to enter international waters, resulting in a standoff offshore.

Warships had deployed to block the Morning Glory after Culture Minister Amin al-Habib warned Sunday the tanker would be "turned into a pile of metal" if it tried to leave port.

The defence ministry had also deployed the air force, the official LANA news agency said.

Ex-rebels at Al-Sidra spent the weekend loading oil onto the tanker, ignoring Prime Minister Ali Zeidan's threats to bomb the ship.

The former rebels turned against Libya's interim authorities after toppling veteran dictator Moamer Kadhafi in the north African country's 2011 uprising.



HANOVER (AFP) - The ape-like robotic system "Charlie" walks on all of his four limbs during a demonstration at the 2014 CeBIT computer technology trade fair on March 10, 2014 in Hanover, central Germany. Developed by the German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI) and the University of Bremen within the iStruct project (intelligent Structures for mobile robots), the robot could conceivably be used in the kind of rough terrain found on the moon. Great Britain is partner country of the fair considered as the world's biggest high-tech fair running from March 10 to 14, 2014.

COMICS

PICKLES



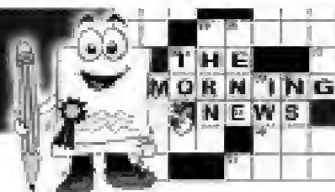
MOMMA



CALVIN and HOBBS



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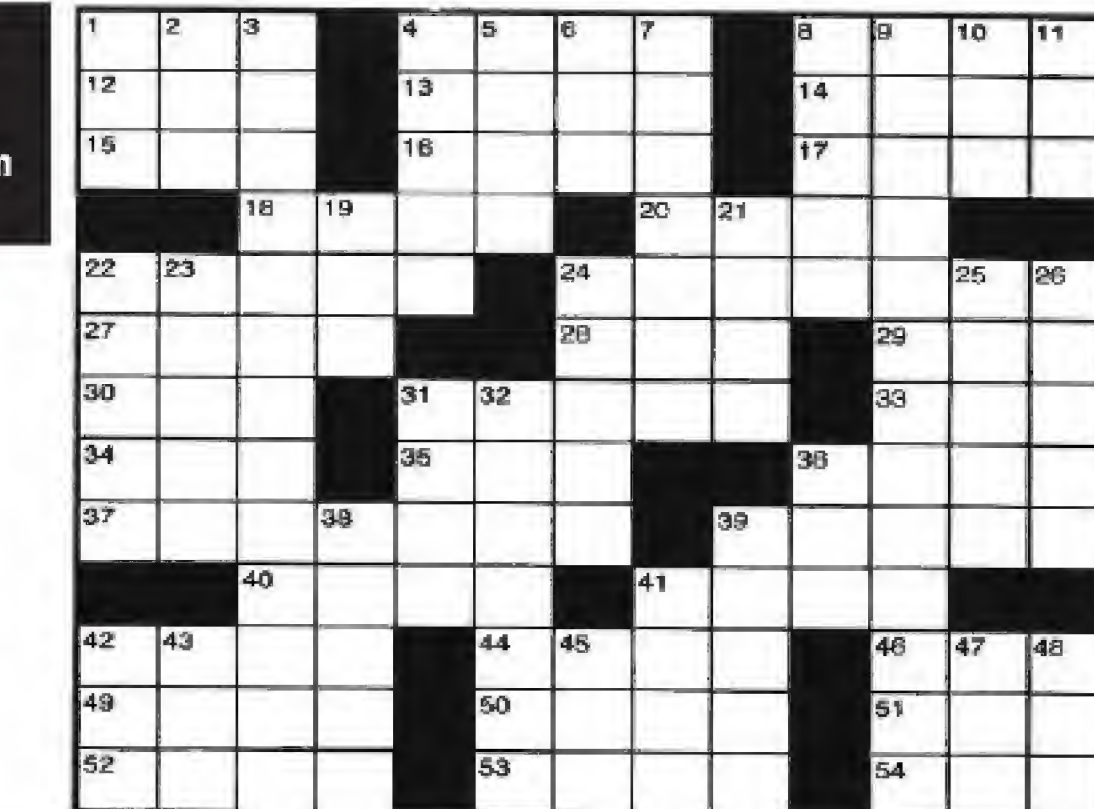


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ACROSS

1. Front of overalls
4. "Adieu!" (2 wds.)
8. Tabloid topics
12. Groom's answer (2 wds.)
13. Skating jump
14. Dagwood's napping spot
15. Arrest
16. ___ bargain
17. Mideast country
18. Penn's pronoun
20. Phone sound
22. Additional
24. Comedienne Coca
27. Jennifer or Joel
28. Bear's hideaway
29. Cowboy's nickname
30. "Adam's ___"
31. Joins metal
33. After Thurs.
34. ___ Claire, Wisconsin
35. Laughing sound
36. Minivans' kin
37. Deli machines
39. ___ of sole



40. Anderson of "WKRP"
41. Robert ___ Warren
42. Short-lived fashions
44. Bible book
46. A Gabor
49. Newsman Huntley
50. Chimney grime
51. Was seated
52. "Fame" singer Irene
53. Some turkeys
54. RR stop
26. Be
31. "At what time?"
32. Weirdest
36. Spiritual offense
38. ___ Mesa, California
39. Exploits
41. Reason to rent a tux
42. Broadcast watchdog agcy.
43. Cry of discovery
45. Animal house?
47. Dye tub
48. ___ loss for words (2 wds.)
1. Refrigerator drawer
2. Actress Lupino
3. Construction worker of kiddy TV (3 wds.)
4. Narrow candle
5. Wagon shaft
6. Short-sleeved shirt
7. Frightened
8. Employing
9. Memory problem
10. "Anatomy ___ Murder" (2 wds.)
11. ___ Andreas fault
19. Informal greeting
21. Charged atoms
22. Fairy tale monsters
23. Courtroom procedure
24. Loafs
25. Boldness

DOWN

1. Refrigerator drawer
2. Actress Lupino
3. Construction worker of kiddy TV (3 wds.)

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Sudoku

				9		1	7	8
7	2			3	8			
	6	9						
1		3			5	8		2
4		2	9			7		1
						2	8	
				8	1		9	7
9	8	4		2				

SOLUTION

8	1	6	2	5	9	3	7	4
2	6	5	7	1	8	3	4	9
3	9	2	6	8	4	1	5	7
1	9	4	3	8	6	2	7	5
9	8	7	2	7	1	6	2	9
2	7	8	5	1	9	6	4	3
6	2	7	1	9	2	4	6	8
8	9	3	6	4	1	2	7	5
8	2	1	9	6	2	5	7	4

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9. A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9.

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5 Burgers Aruba: Now your best breakfast bargain!



Delicious Breakfast

--A favorite stop for a great burger for lunch or dinner has just expanded their hours and menu to offer some of the best breakfast bargains to be found in Palm Beach. Owners Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on para-

dise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. The couple's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu from an internationally known franchise with a "5", which now includes breakfast.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," believes Aaron. Upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy, made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

However, beginning at 8am, patrons can now order 2

eggs any style (omelets with 3 fillings are \$7.99) and toast for a price of only \$4.99 or All You Can Eat Pancakes for \$6.99! A new plate called the "Home Run" comes with 2 eggs, bacon or sausage, 2 pancakes, toast & home fries - for only \$9.99! Best of all - unlimited coffee or tea - that is, refillable and never ending is only \$.79! Breakfast is served from 8am until noon. Famous for their fries made from fresh potatoes, Aaron has been working for months on devising the most irresistible home fries recipe, chunky and tender with skins still on; after much testing and tasting, he got the thumbs up from his harshest critic, Rosie; so this is another treat you have to try.

A glance at their burger menu will certainly tempt you to return for lunch or dinner, to sample their famous specialty items such as the Gouda, Farmer's or Man Burger (almost 12 ounces of choice

beef), and a Western Burger with Aaron's secret-recipe crispy onion rings. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jala-peño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato...whatever, the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.



5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries is enough to be shared by two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to

make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!"

Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

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heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for either owner to sit and chat, sharing their knowledge of the island while making sure patrons are happy with their meal.

Baseball: Drugs cheat Bonds back working with Giants

SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) - Barry Bonds, branded a drugs cheat and shunned by Major League Baseball because of his links to BALCO, has returned to the San Francisco Giants as a spring training hitting coach.

The face of MLB's notorious steroid era, Bonds appeared much slimmer as he entered the Scottsdale Stadium field in Arizona where the Giants are holding their pre-season training camp.

Giants manager Bruce Bochy said they "welcome" Bonds back to the team but did not go into details about what Bonds' specific role would be during his one week stint.

"We would always have a welcome mat out there for him," said Bochy on Monday.

Asked about his controversial career and the use of performance-enhancing drugs, American baseball's home run king refused to respond directly, saying "I have already been to court."

Bonds said he hopes to work with some of the club's younger players.

"I only have seven days, but I welcome younger guys and veterans to pick my brain," he said.

The 49-year-old Bonds is the central figure in baseball's steroid scandal.

He was convicted in 2011 of obstruction of justice charges



in connection with his testimony before the grand jury looking into BALCO, the San Francisco lab that distributed performance-enhancing drugs to US athletes across a range of different sports.

Bonds new role with the Giants follows a return to baseball by a number of former drugs cheats, including Jason Giambi and Mark McGwire.

Giambi, an admitted steroid user according to leaked grand jury documents, is in his sec-

ond season with the Cleveland Indians.

McGwire, who also admitted to using performance-enhancing drugs, now works as a hitting coach with the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Bonds spent his last 15 seasons with San Francisco, finishing in 2007 with 762 home runs.

He apparently signed a 10-year services deal with the Giants that included spring training visits.

Pistorius vomits in court as girlfriend's autopsy discussed

PRETORIA (AFP) - An emotional Oscar Pistorius became physically sick in court on Monday as he listened to harrowing testimony about the au-

topsy of his girlfriend Reeva Steenkamp, whom he is accused of murdering.

Sitting in the dock, the visibly shaken Paralympian retched and heaved into a blue bucket as a pathologist gave a detailed post-mortem account of the multiple bullet wounds Pistorius admits inflicting.

University of Pretoria pathologist Gert Saayman said the double-amputee sprinter shot Steenkamp with "Black Talon" hollow-point bullets, which mushroom open like a jagged flower on contact to cause maximum tissue damage.

Saayman -- whose testimony the media has been banned from directly reporting -- told the court how Steenkamp was struck four times with three bullets from Pistorius's nine millimetre pistol.

Steenkamp was hit once in the top right of her head, once in the right elbow and once in the right hip. She was also struck in the webbing of her left hand.

The pathologist said Steenkamp could have died from either of the wounds to her arm and hip.

After being shot in the head, she would not have been able to breathe more than a few times and would likely have fallen unconscious, said Saayman.

Li reaches Indian Wells 4th round



INDIAN WELLS (AFP) - Australian Open champion Li Na booked her fourth-round berth at the Indian Wells WTA and ATP Masters hardcourt tournament Monday with a 6-3, 6-4 victory over Karolina Pliskova of the Czech Republic. Li, the world number two and the top women's seed in the California desert, is seeking her third title of 2014. She lifted the trophy in Shenzhen in her native China before claiming the second Grand Slam crown of her career in Melbourne in January. Li said she was surprised by 67th-ranked Pliskova's big serve in their first WTA meeting, but she held on to win in one hour and 21 minutes. She will play the winner of the match between Canadian Aleksandra Wozniak and 21st-seeded Russian Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova.



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ROME (AFP) - AS Roma's Dutch international midfielder Kevin Strootman will miss the World Cup after being ruled out for the rest of the season with ruptured knee ligaments, the Serie A Club said on Monday. The 24-year-old will undergo surgery on his left knee and the recovery period could take between four and six months. "It's a small catastrophe," Dutch coach Louis van Gaal was quoted as saying on the Netherlands Football Federation website, "because Kevin was in his best form for both the national team and Roma." He was in Roma's starting line-up against Napoli on Sunday but collapsed in the 12th minute and was carried off on a stretcher.



INDIAN WELLS (AFP) - Two-time Grand Slam champion Andy Murray survived the determined challenge of young Czech Jiri Vesely Monday to reach the fourth round of the Indian Wells ATP Masters. Murray, a former world number two currently ranked sixth, had to rally in both the second and third sets to down the 20-year-old, 77th-ranked Vesely 6-7 (2/7), 6-4, 6-4. Murray, seeded five at Indian Wells, was twice down a break in both the second and third sets, but he broke Vesely in the last game of each. After saving three match points in the 10th game of the third set, Vesely's 11th double fault of the match gave Murray a fourth and the Scot sealed it after two hours and 47 minutes when Vesely hit a forehand into the net. Murray, who was also taken to three sets in his previous match against another Czech player Lukas Rosol, next faces either big-serving Canadian Milos Raonic or Colombian Alejandro Falla.



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Our Zaithyel comes short of reaching the final BMX in Chile

ORANJESTAD - In his three series competition, Zaithyel Soekander had to compete with, among others, the 2014 South American sub-champion in his race against the clock.

His competitors, the Argentine Montenegro, in third place, Brazilian Rezende, and the Venezuelan and Ecuadorian Olympian. Soekander nonetheless showed his top performance and was determined to classify for the grand final.

In 1st heat which lasted a bit more than half a minute, Soekander had less than a strong start, but was determined to recover his position to finalize among the first four, which gave him a high



and heat Zaithyel committed a technical error at the second hill resulting in him finalizing in 7th place. In the 3rd heat again Zaithyel was hindered and ended up in the last place.

For Zaithyel this was a tremendous learning experience, to race for the first time with Olympic elites, racers with enormous international experience, not withstanding the ages of the racers.

Soekander is but 16 years of age and was the youngest racer in the entire South American competition. Among the favorites, the Colombian, Carlos Qquendo and Zaithyel there is a difference of ten years.

This time Zaithyel came short of accomplishing his goal. Yet he is determined in becoming one of the great BMX cyclist in the near future.

Hopie Pabien Zaithyel!



score.

In the first curve he suffered a fall along with four other racers. He was unable to get up in time and ended up last to come in. In the sec-

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Rescuers hunt four missing hikers near Mexican volcano

PUEBLA (AFP) - Rescue crews Monday tried to locate three French and one Mexican hiker missing in a rugged area near a dormant central Mexican volcano.

"Emergency services received a call Sunday night from the group that they were lost, did not know their way back and unfortunately lost communication," the civil protection coordinator for the central state of Tlaxcala, Joaquin Pluma, told AFP.

Since then, rescue personnel have combed the 4,420-meter (14,500-foot) La Malinche volcano, which has seen previous fatal accidents involving inexperienced hikers.

Pluma said it was presumed that the battery from the hikers' cell phone had died, further complicating finding them.

"We have indication of the site they might be at. It is a dangerous area with many ravines. Moreover, during the night, temperatures dropped considerably, so we are moving quickly," Pluma said.

He did not provide the age or names of the four men.

The volcano is preserved as a national park between Mexico's Tlaxcala and Puebla states.

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Paralympics: Blind skiers follow the sound to victory

ROSA KHUTOR - (AFP) - When Kelly Gallagher accepted her gold medal Monday - a historic Winter Paralympic victory for Britain - she shared the podium with Charlotte Evans, her eyes on the slope while she flies down the alpine course.

Kelly, who hails from Northern Ireland, has congenital oculocutaneous albinism, a disorder which involves a lack of pigment in the skin, hair and eyes and which also causes vision problems like blurring.

When she skis, she can't see anything at the snow level, and the only way she can tell how fast she is moving is with the force of the wind in her face.

But Charlotte provides crucial instructions, hollering non-stop into the headset that acts as an invisible link between the two skiers, even when they travel at speeds of 100 kph.

Skiers say that having a good guide is essential in succeeding as an athlete, but for guides, that often means say-



ing goodbye to a career and depending on another person's schedule.

Not to mention the responsibility that comes with verbally directing a blind or partially-blind person down a slope at the speed of a car on a highway.

"Personalities have to match," said Kim Seevers, who skis as a guide for American competitor Staci Manella. "If you don't get along, it will spill over on to the race course. You have to implicitly trust each other."

Before the advance of technology to wireless Bluetooth sets, guiding skiers had to constantly yell over their shoulders, endangering themselves and the competitor.

Directions include the sequence of the gates that the skier needs to go around, whether the turn is fast or slow, left or right.

The guide and the skier also have to be the same build, since weight effects velocity, and the distance between the two people has to stay constant. If the skier falls, the guide cannot help them.